

JEWISH OBSERVER AND MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

IX, No. 36

SEPTEMBER 2, 1960

Ninepence



AMMAN: THE END—OR THE BEGINNING
FIRST BLOOD TO KASSEM'S COMMANDOS? —PAGE 3

JEWISH OBSERVER & MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

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Subscriptions: £2 per year

WHY — NOT WHO

There was a reason, and a design, behind the twin bombs that wrecked the Jordan Foreign Ministry and killed the Prime Minister. And to understand that reason, and to appreciate correctly the design, is more urgent now, and more important, than to speculate on the nationality of the perpetrators of this calculated act of terror: terror with a purpose. Clearly, then, the greatest danger in such a situation comes from those quarters which seek to muffle the sound of the explosion, to reason it away as an understandable local expression of discontent by desperate Palestinian refugees, and urge that it was nothing which should jolt anyone, particularly the Israelis, out of their complacent calm. The *Guardian*, perhaps a little unsure of its advice, adds a hesitant qualification pleading that the bombs should be treated as Jordan's domestic business—"at least until it is proved otherwise."

To argue like this is to misunderstand every aspect of the Amman bombs. For these were bombs with a message, and the important thing now is to read the message, not to pretend that there was none. For, as our reports from Beirut and Baghdad show, a new pattern of action is unfolding on Israel's borders. As yet Israel is not directly involved, but can there be any doubt, after the latest pronouncements from the two cities, that the destruction of Jordan as a Hashemite Kingdom has become an essential means to bringing about the end of Israel?

The situation, in fact, is too serious for snap judgments—and for reassuring appeals not to worry. For the forces which brought about the attack on the Jordanian Government are not standing still. On the contrary, as our reports on the next pages show, Kassem in Baghdad, and Nasser in Cairo, are moving forward with calculated steps designed alternatively to threaten or provoke the Israelis. The bombs in Amman are not an isolated incident. They have to be seen as an integral part of the deliberate policy of harrying Israel, on which the Arab leaders in Cairo and Baghdad have embarked.

There is one further feature in this unfolding pattern which is most disturbing. This is the shameless manner with which the vast Soviet propaganda apparatus in the

Middle East and in Africa has joined the Arabs in this harrying of Israel. The Soviet record in the Middle East is well enough known. The method is also becoming more familiar. Just now we are witnessing an undisguised campaign designed to isolate Israel diplomatically in the Afro-Asian world. For suddenly, it seems, the Arab leaders and the Russians have become aware of, and worried, by the extent of Israel's relations with the new states of Africa and Asia, and with some older ones. And they have set out to threaten every Afro-Asian government (particularly if it is still politically weak) which maintains any kind of friendly relations with Israel.

Thus the Boycott at one end, and diplomatic pressure to the point of blackmail at the other, supported by hysterical radio hate-propaganda, is clearly intended to undermine Israel's political position. The plans now brooded over by Kassem in Baghdad and by Nasser in Cairo are, as our reports show, scheduled to open the next and more direct phase of this new conflict. They are not planning a war in which ill-trained hordes of refugees would be thrown against the experienced Israeli army. That is only General Glubb's fanciful idea.

* * *

The real thing, it appears, is to be modelled, not on regular warfare, but on a combination of the *fedayeen* and the Algerian pattern. It is for this purpose that Kassem wants a Palestinian state in place of Jordan, a state which would harass the Israelis and keep Nasser from having control. But when all this has been said, it would not be quite as terrifying as it sounds—if it were confined only to Nasser and Kassem. In fact, it would be more terrifying for the Palestinians on Israel's borders, in Jordan and in Gaza, than for the Israelis. For the Palestinians would become the real victims of such a combat, which would inevitably invite massive Israeli retaliation.

More serious, and of concern not only to Israel but to the whole western world, is the further implication of the current Soviet policy in the Middle East. Kruschev is surely not preoccupied with Israel as such; why then is he making so much play with it; why is he encouraging and egging on the Arab world against Israel? Just to make Nasser and Kassem happy? This is the unanswered question that lies at the end of the chain reaction started by the Amman bombs.

Soviet policy, Nasser's policy and Kassem's policy have all an interest in this new turn of events. It is no local issue. The gathering of Arab military chiefs in Moscow this month is probably a pointer to this new policy. Its real impetus, if it's going to have any, will come, not from Baghdad nor from Cairo. It will come from Moscow. But what is Moscow's game in the Middle East? It looks as if any moment now, Kruschev will uncover his Arab hand. Is the west prepared for it?

TERROR

WAS IT KASSEM'S COMMANDOS?

THE HAND BEHIND THE AMMAN BOMB

from our special correspondent

ut:

death by assassination in the Middle East is a political risk. There is not one leader who can take to his bed at certain that the next day will not be his last. Today it is Hazza Majali, tomorrow it can be—anyone.

is not the man who dies who wins headlines, it is the man who did the killing. So it is with Majali, the Jordanian Premier, who shared his death with others in the bomb-blasted ruins of Amman Foreign Ministry on Mon-

day. Majali was a chance victim. The killing was intended for King Hussein. If he would have been its victim had Cabinet meeting in the Foreign Ministry building not been postponed at the hour. The question to which answer is now sought is: whose finger is on the timing mechanism? Nasser? Despite the rantings of his propaganda, his crying need at the moment for regional stability. Things are going



A LAST LAUGH! HUSSEIN AND MAJALI
...and then there was one

from bad to worse in Syria. Trouble in Jordan only increases tensions in the neighbouring northern region of the U.A.R. He cannot wish at this moment to add to them the liabilities of Jordan.

An open field? And things are not going so swimmingly at home where delays have held up progress with the Aswan Dam and other development projects. An upheaval in Jordan would not bring him much benefit at this juncture.

Of this Kassem is well aware. He has himself exploited the Palestine issue time and again to embarrass Nasser, to force him into demonstrative gestures to the Palestinians which have not been followed up by action.

And the more his needling of Nasser has succeeded, the more convinced he has become that, on the Palestine issue, he has an open field. It is into this field that he now seems prepared to make some tactical forays. And his friends in Moscow are not discouraging him.

Farewell from Baghdad: The belief is growing among the well-informed Lebanese security agencies that the killing of Hazza Majali (a second prize, in place of Hussein) was the first of these forays.

There is much to support this view. Addressing the first passing-out parade of Iraqi-trained Palestinian commandos on August 11 (the official wording referred, curiously, to a "farewell" gathering), Kassem told them: "Very soon you will see with your own eyes that the holy jihad (which means 'holy war', he therefore used the word 'holy' twice) will come into existence. . . . I congratulate you on the birth of the eternal Palestinian Republic."

Four days later, on August 15, addressing a graduation course at the Reserve College, from which 60 Palestinians were passed out, Kassem told them: "We have prepared arms, funds, men and efforts to be at your disposal. We have prepared for you a perfect, a precise plan for the recovery of your homeland and for the destruction of the oppressive enemy. . . . I wish you—all the graduates and especially the Palestinians—success in your mission."

An old idea: There is no doubt from Kassem's own previous statements that elimination of Jordan and Hussein are an integral part of his plan. The creation of an independent Palestinian state would, in his view, have the two-fold effect of permanently breaking up Nasser's empire and of disproving any idea of Iraqi expansionism.

He has, surprisingly, confessed within only the past couple of days that three years ago, in 1957, he wanted to invade Jordan but was restrained by the then government of Prime Minister Nabulsi.

He made this confession in an interview with the proprietor of *Thawrah*, a leading Baghdad newspaper, only one day before the assassination of Majali. He was a brigade commander in 1957 when the Iraqi Government ordered him to prepare for an invasion of Syria. But, through contacts with Syrian commanders Tawfiq Nizam eddin and Afif al-Bizri, he recalled, he had been able to foil this plan.

Forces at work: At the same time, however, he had contacted Rimawi, Foreign Minister in Jordan's Left-Wing Nabulsi government, and told him: "I



NEW PREMIER
Bejhat Talhouni—no laughs

am ready to invade Jordan and relieve it of the tyrant Hussein. As you represent the country's legitimate government, the Cabinet can take over running the government."

Rimawi refused and pointed out that just as Iraq had its symbol, the king, so had Jordan, and they wanted to preserve this symbol. Kassem recalled that he had replied: "The Iraqi symbol will be eliminated. We shall definitely remove it. I promise you this. The future will prove me right." And, on August 28, he added the comment: "So Rimawi wasted this opportunity for brotherly and patient Jordan."

Equally pertinent were his comments to the *Thawrah* proprietor on the actions he was taking for the liberation of Palestine. "We have," he remarked, "also created Arab organisations which have begun operating throughout the Arab world, even in the land occupied by the Zionist gangs.... We have also allocated £250,000 a year as a preliminary contribution to the Arab Higher Committee," the committee headed by the ex-Mufti.

What Jawad said: This was the first confirmation from any Iraqi source that *fedayeen* activities were contemplated by the Iraqis. So impressed were the Lebanese participants in the Foreign Ministers' conference by the vigour with which Iraq Foreign Minister Hashim Jawad spoke on the Palestine topic, that there are few who doubt that Kassem's *fedayeen* have indeed been put into the field.

They are recalling now a phrase from Jawad's speech at the opening of the conference in which he said: "You will find that liberation movements in any Arab country have their economic, political and social characteristics which do not stop at the borders of one country but transcend them and, above all, reach the other Arab countries."

Although the evidence is circumstantial that the hand which set the time bomb in the Amman Foreign Ministry was the hand of Kassem, it is, on reflection, impressive. If this was the first operation in the field of Baghdad's Palestine commandos, we can expect it to be followed by others, not necessarily confined to Jordan.

Bombs overlooked: Another effect of the Amman bomb has been to obscure the failure of the Foreign Ministers' conference. On only one topic, Algeria, was there anything like agreement. But even this was only partial.

The resolution on Arab unity has been made farcical by events. It urged member states to call off press and radio campaigns directed against each other and to work for greater Arab solidarity and co-operation. Unfortunately, no one thought

to suggest the inclusion of bombs among the activities to be restrained.

There are, however, a number of resolutions which may well be put into effect, if only because they provide an opportunity of needling Israel and of presenting a united Arab front to the outside world. One of them alleges the ill-treatment of Arabs living in the Negev and proposes that the matter be raised before the United Nations.

Pressure on World Bank: Another



BIZRI
Kassem warned him

charges the Arab League Secretary-General with the task of collecting information about Israel's relations with the states of Africa and Asia so that, where friendly relations exist, they might "endeavour to correct these attitudes by all means."

A third—not officially published—provides for measures to combat Israel's application for a World Bank loan. Arab ambassadors in Washington and Arab directors on the World Bank board are to be instructed to make "all the necessary efforts" to oppose the Israeli loan.

Representations will be made to U.S. ambassadors in all the Arab capitals and to the State Department.

No support on Shah: A renewed attempt will also be made to force the Cyprus Government to break off diplomatic relations with Israel. The Lebanese envoy in Nicosia has been deputed to act on behalf of all the Arab countries in this matter.

There was little support, however, for the U.A.R. attempt to isolate the Shah of Persia. Fawzi wanted all diplomatic relations to be broken off with Iran or,

failing that, open condemnation of the Iranian Government. The most conference would agree to, after lengthy argument, was a resolution urging that efforts should continue to be made in the hope that Iran would base its relations with the Arab states "on the foundation of true appreciation."

But most pitiful of all was the farewell comment of Jordan's Foreign Minister, Nasir, who found the results good ones "which will enable the Arabs to work towards restoring their rights in Palestine." Had he not been slightly delayed in his journey home, he would undoubtedly have joined Majali in sacrificing himself in the cause of Arab unity.

ARAB MILITARY "SUMMIT" IN MOSCOW?

TO "WATCH RUSSIAN ARMY MANOEUVRES"

from our own correspondent

Baghdad :

Moscow is mounting what appears to be almost a summit of the top military men from the Arab world.

Military delegations have been invited from Iraq and from the U.A.R. (both Egyptian and Syrian) to study Russian Army manoeuvres to be held during this month.

Kassem's delegation is an impressive, and at the same time, intriguing one. Heading it is Baghdad Military Governor al-Abdi, director of the fiercely fought anti-communist campaign. As a counter-weight, he will be joined in Moscow by People's Court chairman Col. al-Mahdawi, a pro-communist now holidaying in the Soviet Union.

On the Jordan road : Other delegation members include Brigadier Saadi al-Qaraghuli, Staff Brigadier Abdullal al-Umari, Col. Hasan Abboud, Staff Colonel Abdul-Qadir Faq (Iraq's military attaché in London and one of Kassem's most trusted contact men—about to be promoted to a new post), Major Abdul-Sattar al-Janabi (another contact man), Major Salih al-Bayyati, Captain Abdul-Amir ar-Ruba'i, Captain Muhi ad-din Mahmoud and Flt. Lt. Wathiq Ibrahim.

We have received no word here of the composition of the U.A.R. delegation. But no doubt it will be equally impressive. Many of the Iraqi staff officers will be going to Moscow straight from a series of manoeuvres held over the past week in an area covering wide stretches of the road linking Iraq and Jordan.

ARAB WORLD

U.A.R. STEPS UP AFRICA BATTLE

NEW DRIVE TO "EJECT ISRAEL"

from a special correspondent

structions have been received by U.R. embassies and consulates throughout Africa to initiate without delay a campaign intended to reveal the "truth" of Israel to Africans.

Special information bureaux are being established in each of the U.A.R. diplomatic missions on the African continent. "We shall do everything in our power to eject the Israelis from Africa," an official spokesman told the Cairo newspaper *al-Ahram*.

Directing the new anti-Israel offensive, which is part of a world-wide campaign being put into effect, is Muhammad Galal, one of the small team of senior henchmen charged with formulating U.A.R. foreign policy.

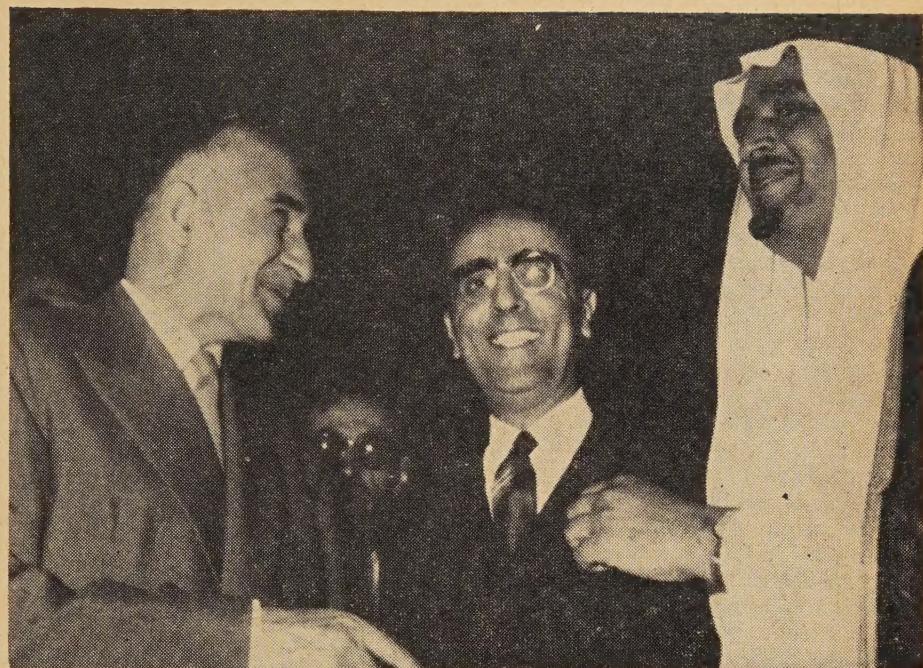
Campaign in Congo: Galal already has minor victory to his credit—the invitation of the Somali Government not to invite Israeli representatives to the country's recent independence celebrations. An earlier invitation was withdrawn under U.A.R. pressure.

The Egyptians are now concentrating their attention on the Congo where an Egyptian paratroop battalion was recently brought in to reinforce the U.N. troops. It was a suggestion from Cairo which induced Lumumba to call the recent "summit" conference of African leaders at Leopoldville, and both Cairo and Damascus radios are loud in their support of Lumumba's policies.

But it is also in the Congo that the U.A.R. suffered one of its many setbacks in the anti-Israel campaign. The U.A.R. delegation demanded that the Israeli representative at the African "summit" conference should be ordered to withdraw. Representatives of other African states, however, termed this request unjustified.

Defeated: But the U.A.R. delegate insisted. In the end, all non-African observers were requested to withdraw from the conference, from which Cairo hoped to extract the maximum of propaganda advantage, continued in secret—and without publicity.

Cairo's representative on this occasion, at the recent African conference in Addis Ababa, was Hussein Zulficar Sabri. He had, it seemed, misfired again.



FAWZI (U.A.R.), TAKLA (LEBANON) AND PRINCE FAHD (SAUDI ARABIA)
Before the bomb—uncertain smiles at the Foreign Ministers' conference in Beirut

NOT ALWAYS A BLESSING

COMMUNIST BLOC AID TO MIDDLE EAST

from a correspondent

Twenty-two per cent of total Sino-Soviet aid to the less developed countries of the world has been spent on arms purchases.

This astonishing fact emerges from a study recently published by the American State Department.* By April this year, \$3,000 million had been extended in aid, \$800 million in credits for arms supplies from the Soviet bloc.

And of this \$800 million, the two regions of the U.A.R. had received the major share: \$570 million approximately. The remainder was divided between Iraq, Yemen (\$17m.), Indonesia and Afghanistan (\$40m.).

Trade surplus: As the study notes, the Sino-Soviet economic offensive in the last six months of 1959 was focussed mainly on the U.A.R. and Iraq.

Among the major credits extended by the Soviet Union were \$287 million to Egypt for the Aswan Dam and \$175 million for industrial development, plus \$150 million to Syria also for industrial development. (And, on Saturday, Russia agreed to provide Egypt with a further

\$250 million for work on the Aswan Dam).

In the first eight months of 1959, over half the exports from the Egyptian sector went to the Soviet bloc, with the result that Egypt developed a \$60 million trade surplus with that bloc.

Sixteenth down: In Syria, however, there was a notable reversal in the status of Soviet bloc trade. Exports to the Soviet bloc during the first six months of 1959 amounted to about \$6 million or approximately 12 per cent of exports, compared to \$26 million or about 37 per cent of the total during the same period in 1958.

Whereas the Soviet Union had been the leading buyer of Syrian goods during the first half of 1958, it stood in 16th position during the first half of 1959.

Russia's major entry on the Iraqi scene

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* Communist Economic Policy in the Less Developed Areas, Department of State Publication 7020.

was signalled with the conclusion of an aid agreement in March 1959 providing for the extension of a \$137.5 million credit for economic development. Yemen has received credits totalling \$44 million for economic development from the Soviet Union and \$16.3 million from China.

Chinese in Yemen: Most of the credit agreements stipulated that communist bloc technicians should be responsible for directing the industrial development projects financed with communist aid.

More than 1,000 Soviet bloc technicians were engaged in the U.A.R. during the first six months of 1959. There were 810 in Yemen (all but a few accounted for by the Chinese engineers and labourers directing the building of the road from the port of Hodeida to the capital at San'a), 300 in Iraq.

For this aid, recipient countries pay an interest rate of between 2 and 2½ per cent. While this makes the aid virtually free of cost to the Soviet Union, it is also of such a degree as to impress countries used to the more realistic rates charged by the "capitalist" countries.

Russia's willingness to accept particular commodities in repayment from a debtor country is not, however, the blessing it may sometimes appear to the recipient of Soviet aid. It has, in the past, sold Egyptian cotton and Syrian wheat on the world market for convertible currencies—in direct competition with the producing country.

Ten times as much: Politically inspired bloc purchases at prices higher than those prevailing on the world market can also result in the diversion of trade and, in time, lead to the gradual drying up of traditional market outlets. This, the study



MOUSSA ARAFA
In the red

notes, occurred to some extent in the case of Egyptian cotton.

Prior to 1953, the communist countries had not made a single contribution to the \$38.3 million donated by member states to the U.N. Technical Assistance Programme. Since then, they have contributed \$10.7 million, compared to \$221.6 million made available by other members.

American bilateral economic assistance since the end of World War II to less developed areas has totalled \$31,900 million—ten times the amount made available by the communist world.

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THE GREAT HIGH DAM MYSTERY

WHEN DOES WORK BEGIN?

from our special Middle East correspondent, Robert Gee

Two years after their initial offer of £35 million in credits for completion of the first stage of the Aswan High Dam, the Soviet Union last week-end agreed to extend a further £75 million to the U.A.R. for completion of the whole project. U.A.R. Minister of Public Works Moussa Arafa signed the new agreement in Moscow.

At the same time, it was stated that the two stages contemplated for completing the entire work had been merged into one, thus cutting construction time from ten years to seven years and the total costs by £38 million.

But what are the total costs? This seems to be a secret closely guarded both by Moscow and Cairo. When the Dam project was first mooted in 1954-55, the total costs were officially estimated at £205.9 million and unofficially at £241 million.

One-third investment: In 1958, western experts put it at something in excess of £430 million. Last month, the nationalised Bank of Egypt estimated the total costs at £367 million from which, it appears, the saving of £38 million must now be deducted. This gives us a final figure of £329 million.

Thus, for an investment of £110 million, or one-third of the cost, to be repaid over 12 years at an interest rate of 2½ per cent, the Soviet Union has secured the right to direct not only the form which the Dam should take, but also the men and materials to be used in its construction.

They can, by simple manipulation of men and materials at the administrative level, arrange for the project to be slowed up or halted altogether. The Egyptians themselves, and President Nasser most of all, have described the Dam as the most important element in assuring Egypt's industrial future.

No great urgency: It is, then, upon the goodwill of the Soviet Union or otherwise that this industrial future depends.

So far, the Russians have shown no great urgency. At this moment, a vast Egyptian labour force directed by Russian technicians is engaged in the basic preparatory work. It will be many months before this is completed. Only then can actual construction work begin. A move in the wrong direction by the U.A.R. Government could bring the whole project grinding to a halt, with no-one interested in picking up the pieces.

ISRAEL

PIOUS WISHES NOT DOOD ENOUGH—DAYAN

"MAPAI LEADERSHIP MUST COGNISE NEED FOR GREATER AUSTERITY"

from Amos Ben-Vered

Jerusalem :

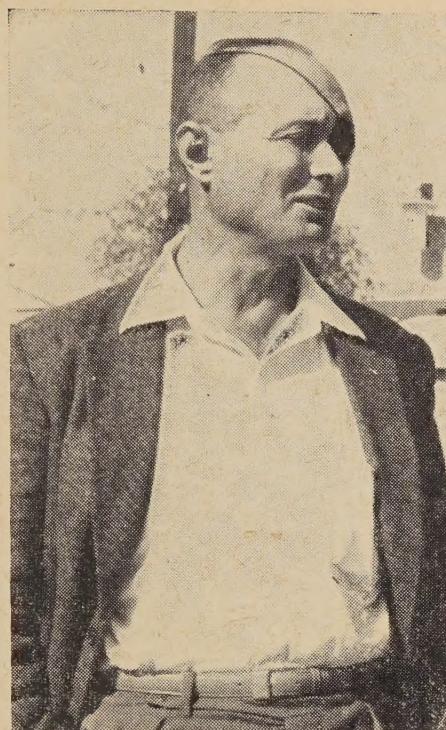
If you wish it, Herzl used to say, it will be no dream. But, as Agriculture Minister Moshe Dayan said in his own uncomplicated way at the weekend, wish is no longer enough.

The immediate cause for his observation was a call voiced at the recent meeting of the Mapai Central Committee for rapid settlement of the B'sor Region, 100,000-acre tract of land south-west of Beersheba in which it is planned to create a farming community of 10-15,000.

In the course of arguing his case for B'sorism on this project, Dayan—in an article which appeared simultaneously in *Ha'avarah* and the *Jerusalem Post*—presented a spirited defence of the younger generation, the "Espresso generation," against charges of laxity and careerism, a justification of farmers' demands for higher earnings, a comparison of living standards in town and country, an attack on state-sponsored pioneering, and a bitter indictment of "statements of pose" as substitutes for practical training.

Self-seeking tendencies : Dayan made clear that he wholeheartedly favoured settlement of the B'sor Region. Preparations should be made to carry it through. Large investments of funds and efforts would be needed. And, he noted, this was not the only project of its kind. Why then had the Mapai Central Committee not stated explicitly what had been done to make the project possible? Verbal resolution of support and a call to the youth to join in was not enough. Without real support from the whole people, the decision was an empty one. The cost of an installation to irrigate the region would alone cost £50 million for the next five years.

Our present way of life and the self-seeking tendencies that dominate our society, and not just the youth, are wreaking havoc with the most vital development needs of our nation and our country," Dayan charged.



DAYAN
Where the party slipped up

Veterans, too : And Mapai's Central Committee had not helped any, because their approval of the B'sor project was not based on any assumption that they themselves would have to contribute anything more than just a dramatic call for the participation of the country's youth.

First and foremost, the Agriculture Minister asserted, Israel needed a new pioneering policy. What was happening today was not just the replacement of pioneers by non-pioneers, but the symptoms of changing conditions which were affecting everybody, including the veteran pioneers.

Within the labour settlements it was not just the younger generation which insisted that settlers' standards of living should come up to that of the workers. "You will find this same demand expressed by the veterans who clearly belong to the pioneering generation."

In the lead : And this pattern was reflected in almost every other facet of national life, where the old-timers spearheaded the drive for material improvements.

What Israel needed was a plan—all-encompassing pioneering goals for the development of the land, the building of settlements, harbours and waterworks, for the education of backward elements, for slum clearance, and so on.

Every adult was under an obligation to recognise the main problems facing the nation and to know what its aspirations were; what it was striving for; how it was to live.

"Point of departure" : "In such an atmosphere, every individual's decisions must have this sense of pioneering as a point of departure, and he must live in the realisation that the achievement of the nation's goals depends on him.

"At such times he must realise that raising wages beyond the State's ability to pay, inflating living standards or failing to work honestly endangers the whole policy of national development.

"Every one of us must be made keenly conscious of this, everyone must understand that no development policy is possible unless we impose limitations on the rise in our standard of living. The development needed is too great to be achieved casually and without effort."

This, rather than a vapid call to youth, was what the Mapai Central Committee should have demanded, declared Dayan.

TAX MAN SQUEEZES ISRAELIS HARD NO SIGN OF A LET-UP

from Yohanan Ramati

Jerusalem :

The amount of taxes collected by the Government of Israel during 1959 was £912 million, about £185 million at the official rate of exchange. This compares with the equivalent of £153 million collected in 1958, and £133 million in 1957.

A rise of some 40 per cent in the tax burden during two years is a serious matter under normal conditions, but in Israel two things sweetened the pill.

The first of these, and the more important, was the fact that national income expanded so rapidly that—despite the growth of tax collections—real net incomes rose considerably during the two years mentioned. This was partly due also to the relative stability of prices in 1958 and 1959, the cost-of-living index rising by only 5 per cent during these two years.

Greater efficiency : The second redeeming feature, at least from the viewpoint of the law-abiding taxpayer, was that much of the additional revenue represented more efficient collections of arrears and increasing success in the battle against evasion, and not higher tax rates.

Israel's tax structure is more dependent on indirect taxes than that of Britain. Nevertheless, income tax plays a much more prominent part than in most under-developed countries, accounting for 34 per cent of total revenue in 1959.

Property taxes yielded only 2.2 per cent



HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN HAIFA
No ceiling to taxes

of revenue, bringing the share of direct taxes to just over 36 per cent. The remaining 64 per cent were brought in by customs, excise, licence fees, purchase tax and other indirect taxation.

Salary earners pay most: The reason for this ratio and for the fact that the proportion of indirect taxes has been slowly increasing in recent years may be found in the necessity to provide incentives for greater output under conditions of very rapid economic development.

Income tax yielded altogether about £55 million in 1959. Of this, wage and salary earners provided just under £25 million, independent earners about £19.5 million and companies, £10.5 million.

A further £16 million or so accrued

from compulsory contributions to the National Insurance Institute—to all intents and purposes a direct tax. Over two-thirds of this amount fell on employers and independent earners.

Inheritance tax small: On the other hand, other direct taxes were much less prominent. The compulsory war risk insurance collected from property owners yielded about £2.8 million, urban property tax less than £1 million, and rural property tax only about £240,000. Inheritance tax, which in Israel is perhaps deliberately not treated as a potential major source of revenue, brought in £180,000.

Of the indirect taxes, the most important were customs duties. These have hitherto been used with the avowed object of making those wishing to purchase imported luxuries and semi-luxuries pay through the nose for them, while leaving necessities lightly taxed, free or even subsidised.

The yield was about £37 million in 1959—very much more than ever before. Purchase tax, which is an instrument of the same policy, brought in about £19.6 million. Of this, 28 per cent came from electrical appliances and gas for domestic use, as well as household utensils, which most Israelis hardly regard as luxuries.

£10 million from fuel: A further 18 per cent came in from textiles, clothing and leather goods, 11 per cent from building materials and plumbing installations, and 10 per cent from motor vehicles. Other items subject to heavy purchase tax are furniture, musical instruments, wireless sets, cosmetics, paper, optical goods, watches and jewellery.

The fuel tax produced more than £10

million, the relatively high duty on petrol causing some switches to diesel trucks for haulage, and some not very successful attempts to use paraffin for motor-cars.

The main excise, as in most countries, was on tobacco (£6.8 million), but monkeying about with rates on various brands lost the Finance Ministry some millions of Israel pounds. The second largest excise—and here Israel does not follow the rules—is on cement, which brought in £5.7 million, considerably raising the cost of residential building.

Squeezing the motorist: This also is a deliberate policy, aimed at keeping the volume of residential building within bounds in order to limit the rise in living standards and divert investment funds to industry and agriculture.

The excise on alcoholic drinks yielded £3.1 million. The rates are fairly high, but Israelis just do not drink as much as Europeans.

The desire to squeeze the motorist for all he is worth, on the principle that the possession of a car is the ultimate luxury, is perhaps best illustrated by the fact that driving licences and vehicle licences together brought in nearly twice as much revenue as urban and rural property taxes. Other duties and licence fees accounted for the remaining income.

Storm of protest: For the time being, it is difficult to see what other tax policy the Government can adopt. The wage-index link makes it virtually impossible to raise indirect taxes on anything included in the index "basket," and this limitation plays havoc with any attempt at planning for the future.

The trouble is, that raising direct taxes further would tend to discourage productivity, while the indirect tax screw has been tightened almost to the limit. Any further increase would almost certainly affect the cost-of-living index.

Finance Minister Eshkol's new duties on gas and coffee have, therefore, run into a storm of opposition (it being claimed with some justice that these items are already taxed quite heavily enough). He has also had to resort to the expedient of collecting an advance on war risk insurance payments, in order to finance ordinary expenditures, though this is against an undertaking given to the Progressive Party when it joined the Government.

Revision soon? The time may not be distant when some revisions in indirect tax policies will become essential to ensure balanced budgets. But as the whole issue is closely linked with wages, the index and the Histadrut's attitude, Levi Eshkol probably prefers not to think too much about it.

What did REALLY happen in 1948?

"BOTH SIDES OF THE HILL*" is the best book on the Israel War of Independence that I have read. It puts the events . . . in their proper perspective and reveals much information which has hitherto been unpublished."

—DAVID BEN-GURION

"Completely indispensable"—NEW STATESMAN; ". . . a brilliant job"—THE TIMES; ". . . unlikely to be superseded."

—JEWISH CHRONICLE

* BOTH SIDES OF THE HILL, by Jon and David Kimche, is published by Secker & Warburg at 25s.

IN THE NEWS

NASSER— DISAPPOINTED MAN

FRIENDS WHO HAVE been seeing a good deal of President Nasser recently tell me that his diabetes is causing concern. He tends to resort more frequently than ever to insulin. This in itself is no cause for undue worry or mental depression; but it has got worse lately, just as most other problems with which the President is trying to cope have also got worse. In conversation with Nasser, people have gained the impression that he is now a disillusioned and disappointed man. He has lost his once so resonant faith in the Egyptian people. He now feels bitterly that they have let him down and abandoned the fruits of his revolution.

He feels this as something much more than a personal betrayal; he sees all his ideals of the new Egypt freely exchanged for the corrupt practices of the old. He makes no secret of his conviction that the governmental apparatus is again as corrupt and as inefficient as it was in the day of Farouk. Land reform has come to a standstill; industrialisation is lagging way behind the paper plans and aims, and even in the armed forces there are sour jokes about asking volunteers which they would rather do: go up in a MiG jet with an Egyptian pilot, or down in a Soviet-built submarine with an Egyptian captain? The choice, by implication, is grim.

OLD-FASHIONED APATHY, MORAL UNCONCERN

This is admittedly only one side of the picture, but it is a side that spoils the rest of the view for Nasser. He had placed so much faith in the preparedness of the Egyptians to follow a worthy leader. And he sees himself rewarded with old-fashioned apathy and moral unconcern. The audiences gathered for his recent speeches were not listening to him, but enjoying themselves at the side-shows. He was so evidently weary in his Alexandrian speeches celebrating the revolutionary anniversary, that even his most faithful followers were worried. His announcement severing relations with the Shah of Persia was made in the afternoon; but neither his adviser on foreign affairs, Hassanein Heikal, nor the Foreign Ministry knew anything about it. Nor is Nasser's burden made any lighter by his entourage. Most of them, my informants tell me, are hardly of the



JOURNEY INTO DESPAIR
Every man for himself—is there one they can look to again?

calibre that would classify them as possible successors. Most of them are second-rate because Nasser does not like able and strong men around him. There are two or three exceptions to this. One of them is the Vice-President, al Boghdadi. He was President of the short-lived National Assembly, and Nasser has been systematically pushing him into the background. Another is Zakaria Mohieddin, the Minister of the Interior and head of the secret police. Mohieddin, who is rated by those who know him as per-

haps the shrewdest of Nasser's associates, has purposely kept himself out of the limelight and kept his own counsel. He is rated by many as the most likely successor should Nasser step down. The third man who stands above the mediocre average is Hussein Shafei, the Minister of Labour. Any one of these three, Boghdadi, Mohieddin and Shafei, could conceivably become a national figure in succession to Nasser. But none of the others.

I asked about Field Marshal Amer. After all, he was generally thought to be

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closest to Nasser. Amer, my informant replied, is a faithful and competent second-in-command; he is not cut out to take charge of the government. But what interested me was that for the first time Egyptians should so openly discuss the succession to President Nasser. They were convinced that in his present state of health and mental weariness it might

come sooner than most people might expect. But my informants were adamant about the cause: it was not so much the realisation of the enormity of his task that had this effect on Nasser; it was the bitter feeling that the Egyptian people couldn't care less. In many ways he feels himself even lonelier than Hussein.



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BEN-GURION CLASSIFIES THE JEWS

I HAVE RARELY heard a more effective answer to the pure-race bigots, be they Jews or anti-Semites, whites or non-whites, than Ben-Gurion's speech at the closing dinner of the Rehovot conference. Speaking in English, slow and deliberate, with the mannerism almost of a Birkett, he told his mixed audience of Africans, Asians and "Caucasians," by American classification, that Jews could hardly be race-conscious.

Their greatest law-giver, Ben-Gurion pointed out, was born in Egypt—in Africa. He married a Midianite girl, a black girl; and presumably he was not the only one. But Israel's Premier took the argument much further. He spoke of one world and one people as the inevitable consequence of the scientific and intellectual advance of our day. It was Israel's objective to contribute to this end when all people, all races and all colours would be merged into one people. It may seem a long way off, but it does not seem to be a bad idea. But I wonder what Israel's critics will make of it: surely, some new form of wicked peace-mongering, I feel certain.

SPECIAL PLEADING

EDITORIAL POST-BAGS YIELD a host of surprises. The burning issue that might have been expected to draw a stream of heated correspondence goes unremarked. An error of fact in some learned review of a new volume on early Arabian history brings a stack of letters. And there are what, for lack of a better description, I can only call the "mysteries of the mail." We had one last week. It started with a letter, giving a New York address, complaining of our correspondent's recent criticism of the Yad Vashem organisation. Our report was unfair; the staff of Yad Vashem were beyond reproach and the photograph which accompanied our report was intended to imply chaos where none existed. Next, a letter from Rehov Rabbi Meir, Jerusalem—Yad Vashem was a unique and moving institution and our photograph implied chaos where none existed. And a third letter, from King George Avenue, Jerusalem—it would take generations before the work of the Yad Vashem staff would be adequately appreciated, and why had our photograph implied chaos when in fact none existed? There was something vaguely similar about all these comments, a similarity explained by a closer look at the envelopes—all bore the same date, all had been franked on the Yad Vashem franking machine! No chaos there!

COME LESSONS OF THE REHOVOT CONFERENCE

SCIENCE OR POLITICS?

It will be difficult for future historians to understand Israeli politics during the formative years from 7 to 12 B.G. unless they pay considerable attention to the peculiar part played in their shaping (roughly from 1955 to 1960) by two fashionable national pastimes: first, archaeology, and then science. Both, in fact, became a form of escapism from seemingly ineradicable political ills on Israel's doorstep. Even after the Sinai campaign and Israel's consequently greatly improved international status, the problems on Israel's borders showed no real signs of improvement. If anything, they steadily deteriorated.

Since there seemed to be nothing that Israel could do about it (except committing suicide), it was understandable that the natural urge of the young nation would be to look for other outlets. Archaeology became a national sport and provided a good deal of satisfaction, now, under the able leadership (and exemplary public relations) of the Weizmann Institute, science has displaced archaeology. It has opened many doors that have been shut to the politicians; it has provided opportunities that were never available to the diplomats. It is, therefore, hardly surprising that there could be a strong inclination to replace strident politics with constructive and rewarding science.



The Rehovot conference on the use of science for the advancement of new states was the natural consequence of this line of thought. It was one of the most imaginative and constructive gatherings of its kind. But its greatest value will be derived from frankly recognising its aims, its purpose and its achievement; not by pretending it was something that was not. It was not primarily a gathering of scientists; it was a meeting place for scientists and the statesmen of the new nations. It was not primarily designed to serve the scientists, but to serve the new states. It was, in effect, one of the most informed and understanding attempts to place science at the service of largely inexperienced politicians.



But which politicians? And here is the second pitfall in drawing the lessons of the conference. By its very nature—and

because of Israel's position in the Afro-Asian world—attention was focussed on the guests from Africa and on Nepal. But the success or failure of the conference will not be tested either in the Congo or in the Cameroons; it will not be measured by the number of specialists Israel sends to the new countries. These are relevant and important factors; but they are not the real test. The Africans and Asians, those who were at the Rehovot conference and those who were absent, will measure the success or failure of the Rehovot approach, not by the Israeli record in the Afro-Asian world, but by what the Israelis do in Israel.



It is the importance of the conference for Israel that should not be overlooked. This is much more to the point than any other of its functions. For the Israelis cannot very well preach the new science to the new states without themselves practising what they preach. How then does the emphasis which the Rehovot conference placed on the priorities of development, on the precedence of applied science, on the urgency of increased secondary education and on not losing sight of the target, the greater vision, square with Israel's own policies?

The answer can be found, as far as the home front is concerned, in the views of Moshe Dayan (*reported on page 7*) and in the recent, carefully argued warning of the Governor of the Bank of Israel, David Horowitz. Both, in a sense, belong to the record of the Rehovot conference, because both underline the dangers of pursuing an unscientific policy in practice while preaching science in theory. The two do not square up. And the argument is even more pointed when we turn to Israel's international relations.



For something has happened here which appears to have been overlooked in the perfectly justified enthusiasms for science, Afro-Asia, and under-developed countries. There has been a striking change of conditions nearer home, on Israel's border, of which the Amman assassination is only one of many symptoms. It has to be remembered that Israeli policy towards the Arab world has been shaped during the last four

years—roughly since the Sinai campaign—by a mutual policy of the “deep-freeze,” as it was called. It was based on the tacit agreement by both Israelis and Arabs to put the problem of a settlement into cold-storage until tempers cooled and conditions were more propitious.



At first, in 1957 and 1958, it worked. The Arab world had other preoccupations, and by and large the freeze remained broadly successful. Even 1959 was not too bad. But, by 1960, the world thaw had set in. For the Middle East, unlike the rest of the world, the thaw did not spell peaceful relaxation. Already it had become clear that the deep-freeze policy could not continue once Nasser and Kassem both started to put on the heat. And looking back on this “freezing” policy now, it has not helped much. The prospects of a settlement are worse now than in 1957; tempers are more angry, the Arab governments more unsettled. The deep-freeze may have been unavoidable, but it has proved no solution—because neither Nasser nor Kassem wants any solution but the virtual destruction of Israel.

Once again, therefore, the Arab question is moving into the centre: Arab relations, refugees, compensation, water and related issues. And if there were any doubts about this, the Kennedy speech and the Nixon message to the American Zionists should be evidence enough that Israel has again to prepare herself for these almost forgotten topics. And there is no answer here that either science or archaeology can provide. This is one pain that could not be cured by the Rehovot conference. But that does not mean that the contributions to the conference have no relevance to this other problem.



The fact is that if properly applied, not as the master but as the hand-maiden of the politicians and statesmen, the Rehovot conference may yet play its part in the extension of the concept of co-existence also to the Arab-Israeli relationship. But the real test will be how the lessons are applied, not in distant lands, but on home ground in Israel: in the first instance in their application to Israel's economic development and foreign policy. That seems to be the most immediate lesson of the Rehovot conference. An ounce of practical demonstration is worth more than a ton of good advice.

Jon Kimche

MY PLAN FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

AN END TO WEAKNESS AND TIMIDITY

BY JOHN F. KENNEDY,*

Democratic Candidate for the U.S. Presidency

When the first Zionist convention met in 1897, Palestine was a wasted, neglected land. A few scattered Jewish colonies had settled there—but they had come there to die, not to live. Most of the governments of the world were indifferent.

But now all this has changed. Israel has become a triumphant reality, exactly fifty years after Theodor Herzl, the prophet of Zionism, proclaimed its inevitability. It was the classic case of an ancient dream finding a young leader—for Herzl was only thirty-seven years of age.

Perhaps I may be allowed that observation because the Jewish people—ever since David slew Goliath—have never considered youth as a barrier to leadership, or measured maturity and experience by length of days.

I spent two weeks in Palestine in 1939. There the neglect and ruin left by centuries of the Ottoman Empire was slowly being transformed under conditions of the utmost difficulties by labour and sacrifice. But Palestine was still a land of promise in 1939, rather than a land of fulfilment.

I went back in 1951. In three years this new state had opened up its doors to 600,000 people. The United States, composed of 175,000,000 people, has an immigration limitation of all we can take, we say, of 250,000 a year.

Even while fighting for its own survival, Israel has given hope to the persecuted all over the world and it has given a new dignity to those who believe in religious freedom in every part of this globe.

No partisan matter

I left with the conviction that, though the United Nations had given international status to Israel, nevertheless Israel had been made a nation by its own efforts. And it has claims to immortality.

Some do not agree. Three weeks ago I said in a public statement: "Israel is here to stay." The next day I was attacked by the Cairo radio, rebuking me for my faith in Israel, and quoting this criticism from the Arabic newspaper *al-Gumhuriya*:

"As for the question of the existence and non-existence of Israel, Mr.

Kennedy says that Israel has been created in order to exist. And we say that Israel will not continue to exist. Time will judge between us, Mr. Kennedy."

I agree. Time will judge between us whether Israel will continue to exist or not. But I wish I could be as sure of my prophecy about November, as I am about my prophecy on this.

It is worth remembering at this meeting that the cause of Israel stands beyond Jewish life. In our pluralistic society, as Bob Wagner pointed out, it has not been merely a Jewish cause—any more than Irish independence was the cause merely of those of Irish descent.

Because, wherever freedom exists, there we are all committed—and wherever it is in danger, there we are all in danger. The ideals of Zionism have, in the last half-century, been endorsed by both parties and Americans of all ranks. Friendship for Israel is not a partisan matter, it is a national commitment.

A special obligation

Yet within this national obligation of friendship, there is a special obligation on the party of which I am a member. It was President Woodrow Wilson who prophesied with great wisdom a Jewish homeland. It was President Franklin Roosevelt who kept alive the hope of Jewish redemption in the days of the Nazi terror. It was President Harry Truman who first recognised the status of Israel in world affairs.

And, may I add that it would be my hope and pledge to continue this great democratic tradition—to be worthy of it, to be associated with it, for what is needed now is leadership, impartial but firm, deliberate but bold leadership instead of rhetoric.

There has been enough rhetoric in recent years about free transit through the Suez Canal to float every boat through it—but there has been no leadership. Our policy in Washington and in the United Nations has permitted defiance of our 1956 pledge with impunity—indeed, with economic reward.

If America's word to the world is to have any meaning—if the decisions and resolutions of the United Nations are to be binding on all parties—if the Mutual Security Amendment which I co-spon-



KENNEDY WITH DEWEY STONE
A national commitment

sored with Senator Douglas is to have meaning—if the clear, thoughtful language of the Democratic platform is to have meaning—the influence of this nation and other maritime powers must be brought to bear on a just solution that removes all discrimination from the Suez Canal.

The Israelis surrendered their 1956 victory only because the United States and the United Nations committed ourselves to the fulfilment of a pledge of free transit in the Suez Canal. So this is a United Nations resolution in which we have a particular moral obligation.

Ben-Gurion's warning

We have also had much rhetoric in recent years about the arms race in the Middle East. This rhetoric has been empty and negative. Even more fundamental is the promise that if the United States and the United Nations are to reject a solution based on force then they must accept the task of finding a solution based on reason and justice.

When I talked with Prime Minister Ben-Gurion on his recent visit to the United States, he told me of dangerous signs of unrest which existed then under the seeming quiet of the Middle East. For there is no peace in that region today—only an embittered truce between renewed alarms.

American intervention, on the other hand, will not now be easy—for the record is not one to which we can point with pride:

* In an address on Thursday of last week to the Convention of the Zionist Organisation of America.

The series of incredible American blunders which led to the 1956 Suez crisis, events in which the role of our government has never been fully explained;

the so-called Eisenhower Doctrine, which has been repudiated by the very nations which accepted our aid;

and, in general, a deterioration in our relations with all Middle Eastern countries, primarily because neither Arab nor Israeli knows exactly where we stand or exactly what we mean. At times it must have appeared that champions of democracy were being punished for their virtues, by being taken for granted by a neglectful Administration which showed only concern when it was displeased by their conduct.

Peace in the Middle East is not one nearer reality than it was eight years—and the Russian influence has increased immeasurably.

partite declaration again

What can a new President do? More recklessness and timidity will not do. More born errors—redeemed at the last moment—will not do.

Now we must take the risk of leadership, and use our influence to compose this ugly situation before it breaks out a new threat to peace. And I know I will not be alone in searching for a useful solution—if our aims are high, if they are centred solely on the true needs of the people of the Middle East, and on an honourable end to an ancient quarrel.

IRST: I propose that the new President firm our sincere friendship for all people in the Middle East, whatever their religion or their race or their politics.

ECONDLY: I propose that we make it clear that the United States meant it said in the Tripartite Declaration of 1950—that we will act promptly and resolutely against any nation in the Middle East which attacks its neighbour. I propose that we make clear to both Israelis and the Arabs our guarantee that we will act with whatever force and speed is necessary to halt any aggression by any nation.

I propose that an international effort be made to limit an arms race in the Middle East with a realisation that if this is accomplished we shall not permit an imbalance to exist which threatens the security of any country to self-defence. Once the nations of the Middle East have a precise guarantee, then the need



TRUMAN
In at the start

for continuing an arms race can disappear, the easing of tensions can follow, and both sides will be able to devote their energies to peaceful pursuits.

THIRD: I propose that all the authority of the White House be used to call into conference the leaders of Israel and the Arab states to consider privately their common problems, assuring them that we support in full their aspirations for peace, unity, independence and a better life—and that we are prepared to back up this moral commitment with economic and technical assistance.

Water, not war

The offer should be made with equal frankness to both sides; and all the world would be watching the response of each side. I sincerely believe that an American presidential initiative, honestly intended and resolutely pursued, would not be lightly rejected by either side, unless that side was prepared to bear the burden of breaking the peace, and I promise to waste no time in taking that initiative.

The Middle East needs water, not war—they need tractors, not tanks—and they need bread, not bombs. There is already little enough in that sandy soil to be wasted on a dizzy arms race on both sides, an arms race which could be prevented, if guarantees of security were provided.

For the original Zionist philosophy

always maintained that the people of Israel would use their national genius, not for selfish purposes, but for the enrichment of the entire Middle East. The earliest Zionist leaders spoke of a Jewish state which would have no military power and which would be content with victories of the spirit.

The compulsions of a harsh and inescapable necessity have compelled Israel to abandon this hope. But I cannot believe that anyone in Israel wants to live their lives out in a garrison state. And I cannot believe that the Arab world would not find a better basis for unity in a united attack against all their accumulated social problems—an attack in which they could benefit immensely from a closer association with the people of Israel.

The people of Israel have brought their blessings to countries all over the world—to Burma, and Ghana and Ethiopia. Why should the countries of the Middle East, which need technical assistance, be denied this opportunity to participate in a great source of future wealth for them and their people?

Now is our chance

It is a long and painful step, may I say, from the era of the boycott to the era of peaceful partnership—and that step needs the direct encouragement and help of the people of the United States and the President of the United States.

The next President of the United States, whoever he may be, should always be available personally to stimulate every experiment in co-operation, from the joint development of a river, to a reconsideration of the Arab refugee problem suggested, I think, best by the Democratic platform, to the crowning mercy of a final reconciliation that can be brought about by a true peace settlement.

Peace is our objective in the Middle East, and peace is the objective of Israel, and peace is our responsibility in part. "Seek peace, and pursue it," says the Psalmist. And that we must do.

Open up our minds and our hearts and we shall seek peace for ourselves and all who share our aspirations. When history writes its verdict let it say that we pursued peace with all of our courage, that we did everything that it was in our hands to do to make sure that the blessing was brought to our children and all those who think as we do.

We are, in this country, the youngest of people—but we are the oldest of republics. Now is our chance, in this country, to extend the hand of friendship to the oldest of people and the youngest of republics.

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AVITS TRIES HARD FOR NIXON NO CHEERS FOR CABOT LODGE

from our own correspondent

York :

The role of Senator Jacob K. Javits in urging Richard Nixon to Jewish voters has been conspicuous in recent days. A week ago, the Republican Senator from New York took the floor in the Senate to deplore what he said "scurrilous and vicious rumours" Vice-President Nixon was anti-Semitic.

Javits said that the "campaign to charge President Nixon with anti-Semitism is a vicious canard about which there is and never has been the slightest shred of truth."

This sort of thing was easy for Javits. His task was of trying to portray the Republican administration—and therefore Nixon—in a favourable light vis-a-vis Israel. All along this has been one of Javits' difficulties in appealing to Jewish voters sensitive to the Eisenhower policy in the Middle East.

Letter from Kuwait: But the Arabs themselves, through the Israel Boycott Office of the Kuwait Directorate of Customs, provided Javits with an opportunity to project the Republicans in a positive light. From some New York business firms, Javits got this text of a letter they received from A. R. Hussain who identified himself "Director-General of Customs, Superintendent of Boycotters":—

"Dear Sirs,
We have the honour to inform you that we have reliable information to the effect that you have dealings with Israel.

"Since the Arab states are still at war with Israel, no Arab merchant is allowed to have any dealings whatsoever with Israel or any foreign person whose company having certain relations with Israel. Any foreign company having certain definite relations with Israel is blacklisted in all the Arab countries. But, before any measure is taken against your company, we find it convenient to kindly request you to clarify the nature of your company's relations with Israel. This clarification ought to be submitted to us in a formal official declaration duly signed by the competent governmental author-



MAX BRESSLER, INCOMING Z.O.A. PRESIDENT
Which voice in November?

ties and countersigned by any Arab consul in your country.

"Finally, we would like to draw your attention to the fact that failure to submit the required declaration by September 1, 1960 will lead to blacklisting of your company in all the Arab countries."

Interference unwarranted: When Javits got copies of this letter he took the matter up directly with the Department of State and, on July 31, the United States Consul in Kuwait made a protest to the Government of Kuwait.

"Our protest made it very clear"—the Department told Javits—"that the United States regards the action of the Kuwait boycott office as unwarranted interference in the commercial relationships of American business firms."

A qualification: Subsequently, Senator Javits asked the Department whether the U.S. had informed Kuwait "that we regard its threat to American business firms refusing to answer its questionnaire as an unfriendly act and an unwarranted interference in U.S. internal affairs".

To this, the State Department replied that the protest had not specified that the letters constituted "an unfriendly act" since they had not been directed against the United States. "Nor," the Department of State added "does it appear to have been intended to disrupt the substantial and mutually beneficial commercial intercourse" (oil) "now carried on between considerable numbers of American and Kuwait firms."

"Rather it appears to have been directed only against certain American

and perhaps other firms whose business associations with Israel were cited in recent Israeli publications."

Suggestion repudiated: However, the State Department's none too subtle manner of differentiating between the boycotted and the non-boycotted may have done more harm than good to Javits' crusade for Nixon.

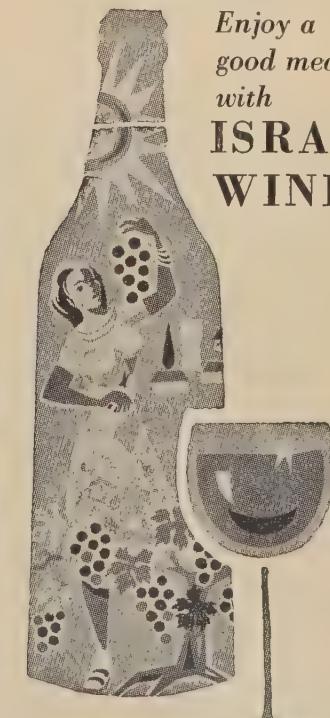
Nixon did not manage to get to the Zionist Organisation's Convention in New York in person but sent a recorded message in which he said that if the Nixon-Lodge ticket were returned, he would give to Cabot Lodge the primary responsibility for "negotiating a settlement" of Arab-Israel problems.

In Nixon's place there appeared the Secretary of Labour, James P. Mitchell, who made a point of repudiating Kennedy's suggestion for a U.S.-inspired peace conference.

Memory of Sinai: Mitchell, obviously giving the Republican line, commented that before such a conference could be called, there must be "a sure building of respect, the steady elimination of tensions and the causes of tensions" between Israel and the Arabs.

The old story, groaned a number of Zionist veterans, their anguish unassuaged by the prospect of Cabot Lodge directing Middle Eastern policies. The memory of Sinai dies hard.

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IRAQ PURGES ITS EDUCATION SYSTEM BUT BASIC ISSUES REMAIN UNTOUCHED

from our own correspondent

Baghdad :

Student politics have been a prime curse of Arabdom. But, in the knowledge that from the students must come their literate support, Arab revolutionaries have played up to their political susceptibilities. It is only when the revolutionary objectives have been achieved that the leaders have sought to stamp out political activities among the students and set them firmly upon their course of studies.

The régime of General Kassem has come late to the realisation that the schools and universities are primarily places of study and not cauldrons in which to stew the currently favoured blend of political ideology. It occurred to them, perhaps too late, that the blend might not be to their taste.

Now, when politics have become as natural a way of life to the students as nomadism to the desert Beduin, an attempt is being made to "clean up" the educational system. The man appointed by Kassem to do the job is a soldier, Education Minister Brigadier Ismail al-Arif.

To the point : He has announced his intention of completing the job—which extends beyond the students to the teachers and the whole apparatus of educational administration—before the summer

vacation ends. That gives him only until September 10.

He started his task by rounding up all the inspectors and giving them a straight-from-the-shoulder pep talk. Then he pounced on the students while they were gathered at a union meeting. The slogan he gave them was simple and to the point: studies and no politics.

Kassem's initial instructions to al-Arif were that he wanted all communist influence eliminated from the schools, colleges and administration. Al-Arif has taken him at his word. He has stated that he will personally review every student admission in September and that any students suspected of having left-wing connections will be refused admission.

With Yahya's help : His thoroughness must be admired. He has been going through every file in the Ministry—this is no exaggeration—with the result that a large number of inspectors and administrators have been demoted, transferred back to teaching staffs, returned to their teaching posts in country schools, where they belong, or "exiled" to remote places in the provinces.

No fewer than sixty-four primary school inspectors were demoted and given minor teaching jobs as a result of al-Arif's first sweep. Al-Arif's courage in setting about this task has to be admired. He is, after

all, dabbling in the parties' favourite breeding ground for new recruits.

Never has any Iraqi Minister undertaken such a detailed job of investigation, nor delivered so many knock-out blows. He owes not a few thanks to Minister of the Interior Yahya whose files have come in very useful in the course of his inquiries.

Special emphasis on London : But al-Arif has not been content to confine himself to student activities at home. He has also been giving a lot of attention to Iraqi students abroad. Through Iraqi missions, students have been told to get on with their studies, get through their examinations and then get home. They must not indulge in political meetings of any kind or they will be recalled. This proviso was to be especially applied in London.

All their mail is being closely censored and the dispatch from here of any newspapers with the remotest smell of politics about them is being halted and the recipients watched. It is being made clear to the students that the government will have no hesitation in holding their families to ransom for their good behaviour.

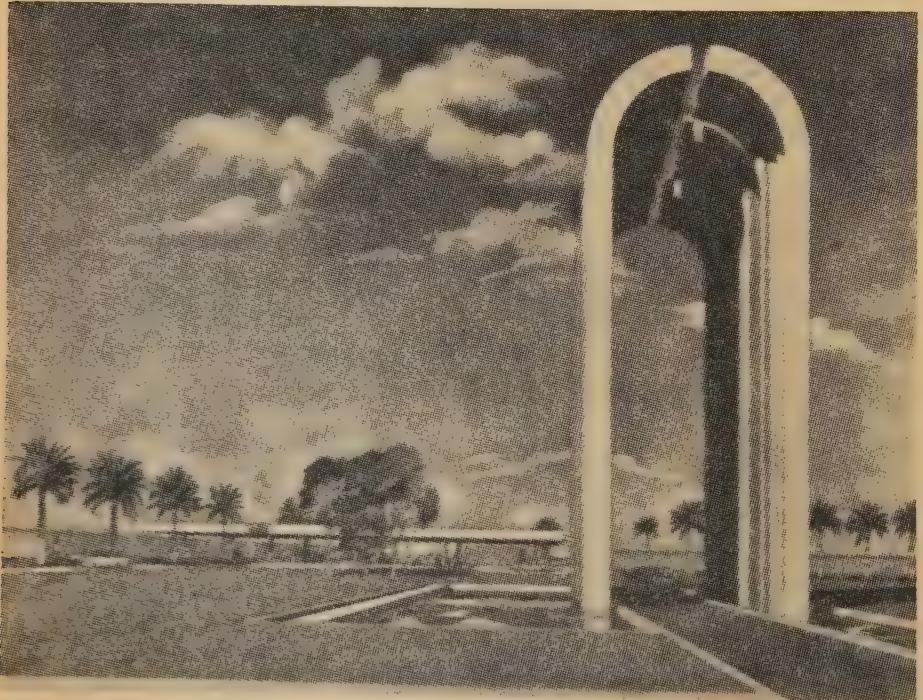
Heads of missions have been personally charged with ensuring that their cultural attachés obey the terms of these instructions "without exception." The attachés have been ordered to send in reports on the progress of every student and on activities in the clubs that they frequent.

The new Minister is displaying not only good political sense, but also a touch of business acumen. It costs £40 per month to keep a student in Britain (there are another 350 leaving for Britain soon), £100 in the U.S.S.R. and £120 in the U.S. (Incidentally, 200 Iraqi students have returned from the U.S.S.R. desperately anti-Russian).

Novice "specialists": Al-Arif is planning to issue a fortnightly news bulletin to keep Iraqi students informed of the main developments at home and the tasks being undertaken in their interest by the "sole leader." It will be the duty of the cultural attachés to see that the students get these bulletins.

When, and if, they come home, they are going to find some changes. The whole educational syllabus is being reorganised from the primary school level upward. Each type of education will be reviewed and revised by a number of special preparatory committees. It is here that al-Arif's initiative becomes rather less impressive.

The committee on child education, primary, agricultural and "basic" education is presided over by a Dr. Ahmad Haqqi



ABANDON POLITICS ALL YE WHO ENTER HERE

An arch symbolising the "Open Mind" to stand at Baghdad University entrance

illi, assisted by eight so-called specialists, investigation of their backgrounds, however, establishes that they are all yes and al-Arif "yes-men."

overnight promotion: The situation is far in the committee for secondary education headed by Dr. Muhammed Nasir. The time we reach the committee on technical and cultural affairs, having led the committees on vocational training (under Dr. Rose Khadduri) and committee for training teachers (Dr. Abd al-Hashimi), the situation has become ludicrous.

The head of the technical and cultural affairs committee is Dr. Salah Khader, director-general of technical affairs in the Ministry of Education, a man seriously lacking in knowledge of technical matters. He appears from the records to have jumped from a pre-revolutionary lectureship to his present post without stopping anywhere on the way to gather experience.

The real let-down seems to be the "secretariat," which is charged with collection of all the information necessary for a complete revision of the educational syllabus. Its head is Dr. Abbas Taha an-Nabhan. Among his prime assistants are Dr. Abd al-Hajj Elyas, present head of the syllabus department, who has managed to make a sufficient mess of things to require a syllabus revision, and Dr. Abdur-Rahman al-Habib, a new man completely lacking in experience and without even the ability to write in Arabic.

wonderful job: They might sound important to Ismail al-Arif, but in fact their names were chosen by a small clique within the Teachers' Union whose time is devoted to intrigue and rule-making.

University Enrolment		
Colleges	Students	Teachers
Business	1,114	78
Commerce	1,561	37
Women's college	512	52
Education	1,515	137
Agriculture	1,747	37
Pharmacy	323	45
Medicine	237	19
Nursing	1,019	102
Veterinary science	163	51
Engineering	115	18
Architecture	444	71
Total	468	67
INSTITUTES		
Sports	89	18
Industrial engineering	316	25
Languages	675	43
Administration	361	16
Survey	110	17
Commerce	813	25
Geology	36	—
Total	11,618	865

IRAQI EDUCATION — THE STATISTICAL PICTURE

Type of Education	1957-1958 Schools	1959-1960 Schools	1957-1958 Teachers	1959-1960 Teachers	1957-1958 Students	1959-1960 Students
Primary ...	2,109	2,948	12,937	19,578	437,669	526,501
Secondary ...	245	368	3,572	4,677	70,272	118,277
Vocational ...	48	62	433	625	5,262	10,632
Teachers training ...	46	56	216	382	6,681	11,116
Higher Institute ...	16	23	557	658	5,741	11,899
Total ...	2,464	3,457	17,715	25,920	525,625	825,350

EDUCATION BUDGET

Fiscal year	1958	1959	1960
	£16,110,000	£29,580,000	£41,305,000

The fact that al-Arif has been in the Education Ministry only a few weeks, that he now wants to tackle the whole field of education, that he seeks to overhaul it through the machinery of half-a-dozen committees on which there is not a single expert, and that he intends to finish the job by September 10—adds up to the danger of bringing in a soldier to handle what is absolutely the job of a skilled educational administrator.

Certainly, in what Kassem wants him to do—rid the educational system of politics—he is doing a wonderful job. But neither of them, neither Kassem nor al-Arif, has the first notion about education or its administration. Al-Arif is an excellent disciplinarian, but education should not need this kind of discipline, which comes right out of the barrack room, with the addition of the harsh internal security methods of the Interior Ministry.

Over 1,000 graduates: The outcome of this rushed job can be predicted. You cannot play about with education like this. And there is the added danger that all the men and women who have been demoted and pushed around will seek their revenge in the only sphere they know—among the students.

It is impossible to overlook the fact that many of Iraq's best academic brains, the victims of previous re-organisation committees, are still out of work, dismissed through the intrigues of their former juniors who are now the men at the top.

It is to these incompetents that he is turning for the "new Iraqis." He has already had quite a batch. There were more than 1,000 this year. On paper, this is a tremendous achievement. But the truth is that their standards are shockingly low.

Now Kassem has come up with a £90 million credit for the building of a new university. It is a tremendous project. The

plan envisages rooms for 1,200 boarders and the establishment of twelve faculties. Special quarters are contemplated for European professors and their families.

Departmental mad-house: But not a word is said about raising the educational level, a first and essential prerequisite to a worthwhile system of higher education.

Some indication of the organisational problem with which the Ministry has to deal can be gleaned from the rate of increase in teaching staffs over the past four years:

	Primary	Secondary
1957 ...	12,937	3,572
1958 ...	16,202	3,805
1959 ...	19,578	4,343
1960 ...	22,957	5,037

What the country needs: But the Ministry's problems are not only organisational. They are under strong attack from the Islamic Party for ignoring Islamic teaching. The department has already promised to rectify shortcomings in this direction, but there is no indication whatsoever of student interest in this sphere.

What is interesting, however, and may well lead to a clash between the religious and the secularists, is the attempt to integrate the religious schools and the colleges for teaching Islamic law into the general educational system—along the lines followed by President Nasser in Egypt.

But if improvement of the educational system is the aim, all this is a waste of time and money.

The country's needs are simple: proper enforcement of compulsory education and a campaign against illiteracy. The present campaign may well rid the educational system of its communists (and thus, incidentally, of most of its officials). It will certainly not bring Iraq a new golden age of learning.

Jewish Observer

AND MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

NEW YEAR GREETINGS

*We invite our readers to insert their
NEW YEAR GREETINGS in a special
NEW YEAR issue of the JEWISH OBSERVER to be
published on September 16, 1960. Would you please use
this form and forward together with your remittance.
(10/- for 30 words, 2/6d. for every additional 6 words.
Display advertisements £2 per single column inch.)*

NOTE: LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF GREETINGS IS SEPTEMBER 9, 1960.

To THE ADVERTISING MANAGER,
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77 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.1

Please insert the following Greeting in your New Year Number for which I enclose f.....; i.....; s.....; d.....

Name _____

(BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Address

Date

TEXT OF GREETING

LETTERS

"NEW OUTLOOK" ENTIMENTAL OR REALIST?

In the course of your latest comments on *New Outlook* (J.O., August 12), complain about the lack of "precise terms and formulations," suggesting that *New Outlook* ought to adopt a "clear political programme." It seems to me, however, that both this complaint and the suggestion are based on some misapprehension: as *New Outlook* is not a party organ, a magazine published by the "Jewish-British Association for Peace and Equality," sponsored by circles and personalities of varying political interests and affiliations, it is not intended to adopt a so-called "clear political programme" and "precise terms and formulations," the privilege and obligation of political parties.

To your more specific criticisms, we certainly share your view that "sweet reason is not all that is missing in Arab-Israel relations," and that the most important thing for improving these relations will be "the realisation of a common interest which will draw them together." But the vital question is: how could such a realisation be achieved? Could it just happen automatically," i.e. by the mere impact of time and by stable facts getting more and more obvious?

Or can it be imagined that "activistic" acts and "theories" of preventive and preventive war (which are so often expressed by responsible circles and personalities) could be of any help? Or should we, too, adopt a widespread habit of underestimating the other side, and of belittling its economic, social and intellectual achievements?

New Outlook chose a quite different way: fight for the abolition of the military administration in the Arab areas of Israel and a more flexible and constructive approach to refugee problem; to advocate a foreign policy which is closer to the neutralistic views and feelings shared by the vast majority of the Afro-Asian nations, which will undoubtedly have to play an important role in the solution of the Arab-Israel dispute; last but not least, to give space in *New Outlook*—in the framework of an open mind—to all kinds of suggestions, criticisms and controversial views about the future of Arab-Jewish Peace.

It seems to me, that this is the main task of the unique contribution of *New Outlook* to a peaceful solution of the Arab-Jewish conflict. Of course no solution can be arrived at by the work of sincere and peaceful magazines or by goodwill alone, but only not without them. Summing up, I am quite sure that *New Outlook's* approach prove to be in the long run the more moral and realistic. And I share and appreciate your opinion, that "*New Outlook* is definitely suited for this task."

Peretz Merhav
Hurst Gardens, N.W.6.

BOOKS

THE BORDERS OF PROPAGANDA

MIDSTREAM, Summer 1960; 112 pp.; (published by the Theodor Herzl Foundation, New York, obtainable from the Jewish Agency, 77 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1) 7s. 6d.

The latest number of *Midstream* raises the whole question of the function of a magazine of this kind. It has been going now for some time and it has been ably edited by Shlomo Katz, with a varied and often stimulating mixture of politics and literature. From its past record, it is clear that it is addressed primarily to the educated and interested Jewish reader. It is no secret that it was intended to do for American Zionism what *Commentary* has done in a wider and less committed field. And some issues of *Midstream* had nothing to be ashamed of when this comparison was made.

But the essence of a magazine of this type is that it must stick to its standards. Its own statements of aim set the sights high—and rightly so. And by and large Mr. Katz has made no concessions which would compromise his aim. In the current issue there are able articles by two competent writers which discuss the Arab boycott and the Suez blockade lucidly and comprehensively. But they do so entirely on Israeli terms and from the Israeli point of view. That is, they are concerned to make a case against Egypt and against the Arab world. They do so ably, and to some, no doubt, also convincingly. They have probably done what they were asked to do.

But neither problem is as simple as it is here made out to be. There are many other aspects to both the boycott and the blockade. Should they be considered and discussed in so specialised a Zionist publication as *Midstream*, dedicated to the "searching examination" of the present? Or is such an investigation undesirable? I know it is much easier to ask these questions than to answer them. But if they cannot be dealt with fully, if they cannot be searchingly investigated, then it seems to me that it would be much better not to discuss them at all, rather than deal with them in terms which inevitably overstep the borderlines of propaganda.

It would be a great pity if *Midstream* were to depart from the strict standards which Mr. Katz has hitherto maintained.

There are enough ways open for writing political briefs for Zionist propagandists, but there are far too few for serious discussion.

J.K.

NEW PENGUINS

WORLD EVENTS—The Annual Register of The Year 1959; index, 614 pp.; (Penguin Books) 10s.

Another example of Penguin's editorial imagination. This popular edition of the "Register" now makes its comprehensive survey available to everyone—and not only to reference libraries. The Middle East is adequately covered by Bentwich, Longrigg, Miss Lambton, Tom Little and Geoffrey Wheeler.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF ROME, by Livy; a new translation of Books I-V by Aubrey de Selincourt; index, 388 pp.; (Penguin Books) 5s.

A familiar work in straightforward modern dress without Livy's excessive stylistic trimmings but with an unusually frank introduction by the translator, giving his views on the function and practice of his art.

THE HIDDEN PERSUADERS, by Vance Packard; index, 223 pp.; (Penguin Books) 2s. 6d.

The now famous—or notorious—handbook on how to persuade through the unconscious. Interesting and good fun whichever way you take it.

D.G.

Due to pressure on space a number of book reviews have been held over.

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ISRAELI ENTERPRISE

INDUSTRY NEEDS HANDLING EQUIPMENT

FIELD FOR PRODUCTIVE INVESTMENT

As Israel's industrial development gains momentum, the demand for materials handling equipment grows with it. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry's Industrial Planning Bureau has therefore proposed its manufacture locally.

Any organisation dealing with large quantities of raw materials, semi-finished products or finished goods needs a great deal of materials handling equipment. In fact, it forms the major part of the plant and machinery employed in such an undertaking.

At the moment, this equipment is imported, but the proposed manufacturing plant would produce it locally, saving substantial amounts of foreign currency. Later on, exports would be a distinct possibility, particularly to the new markets of Asia and Africa, where a number of Israeli contracting firms are engaged in road and public building construction.

Fewer than 20 workers: Handling equipment manufactured would consist mainly of conveyor systems, pneumatic conveyors and lifting equipment, and would be produced to order as well as in standard units.

At the moment, none of the few Israeli firms making handling equipment of any kind employs more than 20 workers. Since market surveys indicate a growth in the next five years of at least 80 per cent in the volume of goods to be handled, a large modern equipment manufacturing plant would fill a noticeable gap.

There would be plenty of local demand for its products. Ashdod alone, with some \$35 million to be invested in it, is scheduled to handle some two million

tons of freight a year. During the first ten months of 1959, Elath expanded the tonnage handled from 40,000 tons in the same period of 1958 to 100,000 tons.

Big local market: During the next five years, this figure is expected to be more than tripled, while Ashkelon is also expected to deal with large quantities of freight. All this development means that millions of pounds worth of mater-

ing of manufacturing and auxiliary services, and craftsmen and foremen would also need training.

Money back in 5 years: At the beginning, four foreign experts would be needed, one for construction and erection, one for sales engineering and promotion, one for estimating and planning, and one for machinery and assembly. Financing the necessary know-how would require \$75,000 and £65,000.

The total investment required would be £2,855,000, with \$400,000 of it in foreign currency. 65 per cent of the total would be earmarked for fixed assets, and



DRUSE HORSEMEN IN GALILEE
A welcome sight to the mushroom men

ials handling equipment will be required locally.

Abroad, Israeli firms are already working in such countries as Liberia, Ghana, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Turkey. These countries would offer a market for such equipment.

The Industrial Planning Bureau sees the factory it has in mind as employing a total of 325 people. 28 of them would be engineers, 276 factory staff, and 21 administrative personnel. Sub-contractors would need to be trained in the supply-

the rest for working capital. 30 months would be needed from the time planning started to regular operation. The plant's annual net profit before taxes is estimated at £560,000.

MATZUBA'S MUSHROOMS ARE MARVELLOUS KIBBUTZ SUPPLIES WHOLE OF ISRAEL

In the hills of western Galilee, a few miles south-east of Hanita, famed for its view and for its small, though professionally run archaeological museum, lies another kibbutz, Matzuba.

The view from there is perhaps less beautiful, but Matzuba has a reputation unique among agricultural settlements for delighting gourmets. The kibbutz provides the whole of Israel with something no cook can afford to be without—mushrooms.



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its twenty years of existence Matzuba has developed a variety of crops, including tobacco, but none so appetising as mushrooms, of which it grows some forty tons a year.

Satisfying local demand : This quantity is enough to satisfy local demand, which remains limited, both by high cost and the fact that at least half the country's population, being of oriental descent, does not know about mushrooms and would not care about them, even if it did know. Matzuba has been producing mushrooms for thirteen years, ever since one of its members grew the first cultures in the natural caves near by.

Today, they are grown in two fully air-conditioned three-room buildings equipped with steam plant for sterilisation andeurisation. An average of four people fully occupied on mushroom culture whole year round.

Natural manure : During the winter crops are grown simultaneously. In summer, the number drops to three, much more work is entailed in ensuring that the delicate mushrooms, themselves a fungus, are not spoiled by other, non-edible fungi.

The mushrooms are grown in a mix of earth and organic fertiliser. Artificial fertiliser, expensive and not so suitable, is used only in emergencies. Matzuba buys every bit of horse manure pro-

duced throughout Galilee, since the growing mixture can only be used once, and is thrown away once the crop has been gathered.

Spores have in the past been imported from France, the United States and Switzerland, but Matzuba has lately begun to develop its own strain. If experiments are successful, the cost of mushroom growing may well be brought down in future.

Compare with the best : Matzuba sells its mushrooms for £3.50-£4.50 a kilo, depending on the season, while Tel Aviv housewives pay £6-£7 and usually buy in ounces. Everyone who has tasted Matzuba mushrooms agrees that they compare with the best any foreign country can produce.

ISRAELI ENTERPRISE is prepared by the Jewish Observer—Israel Periodicals, 13 Montefiore Street, Tel Aviv. Phone: 65882.

ISRAELI PRODUCTS FOR GERMANY

Israel agricultural produce, textiles and fashion goods will soon be on display in the department stores of the "Kaufhof" and "Kaufhalle" chains in cities and towns throughout Western Germany.

The agricultural produce was selected

by representatives of the department store syndicates who spent a fortnight in Israel last month. Included are tomatoes, melons, grapes, frozen poultry and eggs, which will be transported in refrigerated ships and aircraft.

MR. E. E. POWER AND MISS EFFIE LYONS. The engagement is announced of Ernest Emanuel Power, M.P.S.Ph.C., only son of Mrs. Sarah Power of 91 Cavendish Road, Salford. 7 Lancs. and the late Mr. S. Power, to Effie Lyons at present residing at Flat 9, 77 Rehov Shlomo Hamelech, Tel Aviv, daughter of Mr. Philip Lyons of 116 Leyland Road, Southport, and the late Mrs. B. Lyons.

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BROADCASTS FROM ISRAEL

Fri. 2nd September : 21.15 The News. 21.25 Our Correspondent Reports. 21.30 Sabbath Programme.
 Sat. 3rd September : 21.15 The News. 21.25 The Lighter Side. 21.35 This Week's Portion, by Rabbi Bernard Casper. 21.40 Cantorial Music.
 Sun. 4th September : 21.15 The News. 21.25 "Heritage"—Jerusalem The Holy City. 21.40 "In the Jewish World."
 Mon. 5th September : 21.15 The News. 21.25 Sol Temkin Talks About Borrowing Money. 21.30 Children's Choirs of Israel.
 Tues. 6th September : 21.15 The News. 21.25 Commentary. 21.30 Round and About.
 Wed. 7th September : 21.15 The News. 21.25 Tune of the Week. 21.30 Outstanding Women in Israel : 3—Chana Meron—Actress.
 Thurs. 8th September : 21.15 The News. 21.25 Editorial Opinion. 21.35 Easy Hebrew Conversation with Yehuda Goodman.

FLAG-DAY . . .

yes . . . but while we're waving the flag we must remember that the task has not been completed !

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JPA-JNF NEWS

Prepared by JPA/JNF Public Relations Department, Furnival House, 14 High Holborn, W.C.1. Chancery 5986/7

PROSPECTS GOOD FOR KOL NIDRE APPEAL

CAMPAIGN TOTAL NOW AT £1,620,000

Autumn J.P.A. campaigning begins with good news—of £1,620,000 promised for the current effort, and prospects good for a Kol Nidre Appeal that should see the entry of all important synagogues in London and the provinces.

Kol Nidre calculations generally are not easy to make, but this year Harry Shine and Dr. Israel Feldman, jointly responsible for the implementation of the effort, are confident that more shall be raised than ever before. This is chiefly due to the strong support being given to the Chief Rabbi's message by leading synagogues outside London, and they are coming in despite the heavy calls made upon the congregant's purse at this time of the year.

Nowhere does the strong personal link with Israel manifest itself more clearly than in the Kol Nidre appeal, for it gives a hundred thousand worshippers an opportunity for personal identification—without fuss, and according to their means. Thus an additional £70,000 will most likely reach Israel for the causes nominated by the Chief Rabbi, and J.P.A. itself will receive a substantial boost in the direction of the illusive £2,000,000 target, with four months still to run before the campaign is over.

Readers are once again reminded that the organisations which together benefit from the appeal on September 30 are chosen because they are concerned with

the spiritual, material and social welfare of newcomers to Israel. They are: Joint Palestine Appeal; Children and Youth Aliyah; the United Jewish Relief Appeal; the Friends of the Anti-T.B. League of Israel; the Centre for Religious Education in Israel (Mercaz Ha-chinuch Hadati); Keren Yaldenu; and the Medical Aid Fund for Yeshivah Students in Israel.

SOLOMON JOLTS BOURNEMOUTH

Bournemouth Jewry received quite a jolt during a serious interlude at a garden-party last week presided over by Henry Solomon, J.P.A. leader of the community.

Mr. Solomon bluntly declared that there was too much complacency in Bournemouth regarding Israel; and that some people when approached for a contribution gave excuses in return. This was a tragic situation, he said.

The cold facts of the position in the Yishuv were given by Woolf Perry. The Z.F. chairman warned his hearers against being lulled into a feeling of false security.

"Do you know that hardly a single kibbutz is as yet self-supporting?" he asked. Israel might be superficially prosperous, but closer examination revealed the cracks in the façade.

The gathering, held at the Hotel Normandie by courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Lee, was attended by over 100 J.P.A. well-wishers. They went away determined to carry the mood of the meeting to the rest of the community. Other speakers were Rabbi J. Indech, Cyril Speller, J.P. and Mr. Hyman.

CHRISTADELPHIAN'S J.N.F. BEQUEST

"I bequeath my entire estate, both movable and immovable property, of whatever form and wherever located, to the Jewish National Fund of Jerusalem, Israel, for the furthering of the ideals which form a part of the Divine plan, and which is embodied in the People of Israel."

The above is part of the Will of the late James Bell, of South Africa. Receipt and execution of the Will, covering an estate worth £107,742, was reported by Ya'acov Tsur, K.K.L. chairman.

Mr. Bell was a member of the Christadelphian sect, which believes that the return of the Jewish people to the Land of Israel is a manifestation of the will of God, which will speed the Millennium.

TREE INSCRIPTIONS

An avenue of 60 trees in memory of Mrs. Ettie Schapski, nee Jacobson, by Dr. & Mrs. E. Fabian; An avenue of 60 trees in the name of Michael Leon Goldberg on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents; 50 trees in the names of Mr. and Mrs. M. Frazer by the Shoot-up Hill Women's Zionist Society; A cluster of 30 trees in the names of Sandra Leila Wolfe and Gerald Kay on the occasion of their marriage by the parents of the bride; 21 trees in the name of Linda Ruth Roer on the occasion of her birthday by her parents; 18 trees in the name of Mrs. J. Elfman on the occasion of her 80th birthday by the executive and committee of the Liverpool Ladies Zionist and Welfare Association; 18 trees in the name of Mrs. M. Littman by the Brighton and Hove Women's Zionist Society.

Fifteen trees in the names of Renee Zacklin and Geoffrey Solomon on the occasion of their marriage by the mother of the bride, and the parents of the bridegroom; 15 trees in the names of Irene Anne Silberg and David Isaac Abrahams on the occasion of their marriage by the parents of the bride; 15 trees in the name of Rachel Sharon Harriet Broudie on the occasion of her birth by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Broudie; 13 trees in the name of David Israel Bellman on the occasion of his barmitzvah by the Brighton and Hove Wizo Group; 13 trees in the name of Patricia Bellman by the Brighton and Hove Women's Zionist Society; 13 trees in the name of David Alex Coleman on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents, Ruth and Ben Coleman; 13 trees in the name of Leonard Phillip Magrill on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents; 13 trees in the name of Francis Landy on the occasion of his barmitzvah by the members of the Hampstead Garden Suburb J.P.A. committee; 13 trees in the name of Stephen Paul Cohen on the occasion of his barmitzvah by his parents and grandfather, Mr. Sidney Greenberg.

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J P A - J N F NEWS

A GROWING NEGEV INDUSTRY

The recent drought has not affected agave plantations at Gilat in the Negev, although rainfall this year has measured 70mms. The joint centre of agricultural planning has recommended enlarging these plantations, which now extend over an area of 10,000 dunams.

A group of journalists touring the agave plantations last month was informed that within three years the agave industry will provide all the necessary material for the country's sisal requirements.

Sharon Weitz, of the J.N.F. Afforestation Department, stated that within a few years the agave plantations at Gilat will cover an area of 20,000 dunams. It will be possible to implement the entire programme for the project, and this will provide employment for 300 workers. There will be a return on the investment from the financial year 1963/64, when the enterprise will produce more than a thousand tons of fibres annually as compared with 200 tons today.

The price now obtained for one ton of agave fibres by the "Yerushalmi" factory is £900, as compared with the price in the world market of £108 sterling per ton.

According to Mr. Weitz, this price covers the current costs of production, giving a profit for the investors.

The plantation workers cut 3,000 leaves per day in accordance with their quota. The possibility is now being investigated of utilising the waste products of the fibres for a subsidiary industry. They can be used for the manufacture of medical preparations, upholstery and cellulose for paper.

An agave plant can be picked for ten or eleven years before it dies and another has to be planted in its place. A further advantage of the plant is that its leaves mature all the year round, thus ensuring constant employment.

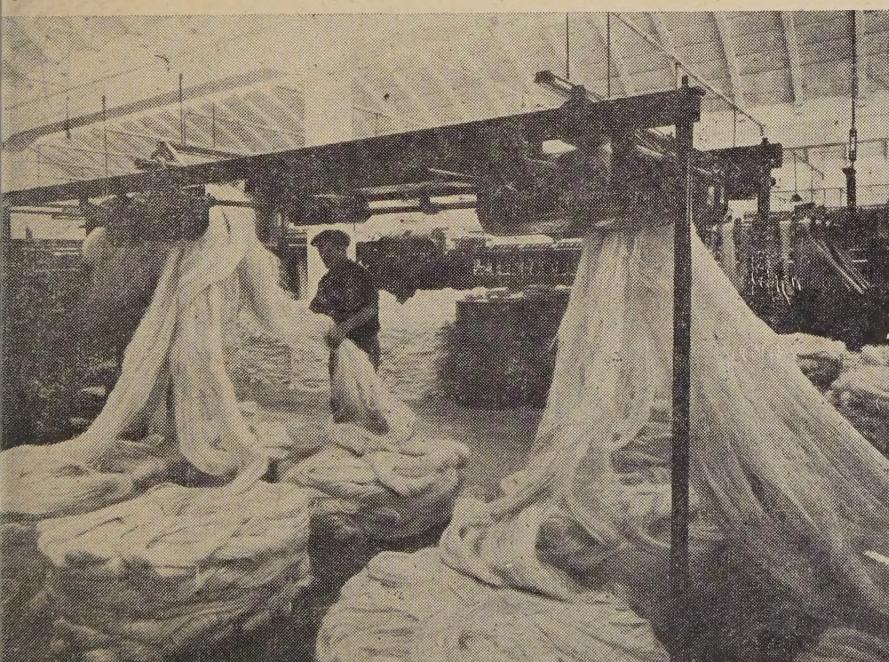
The fibres industry at Gilat is operated by the "Ifco" Company, a joint enterprise of the J.N.F. and Jews from Mexico.

ANY FOREIGN COINS?

Arnold Goldman, of Southport Junior J.N.F. Commission, writes: "At this time of the year many of your readers will have returned from holidays abroad; and will have brought back with them assorted notes and coins of small denominations.

"These are normally not acceptable to a bank, but I have made special arrangements on behalf of the Southport Junior J.N.F. Commission to have these changed. If therefore any readers would care to send them to me, they can be assured that they will provide some benefit to the State of Israel".

Mr. Goldman's address is 6 Bank Square, Southport, Lancs.



Man-made fibres in the Negev.

MME. LOURIE TO PRESENT GOLF TROPHIES

Among the distinguished guests attending the finals of the J.N.F. Golf Championships at Hartsbourne Country Club on September 11 will be the Israel Ambassador, H.E. Arthur Lourie, and his wife. Mme. Lourie has consented to present the trophies.

This year's Golf event has attracted widespread interest among sporting circles, particularly as several of the participants are numbered among the country's leading golfers. Golf correspondents of the national Press will be there to report the scene.

Principal moving spirits Sydney Obrart and Hilary Clive promise a bumper harvest for the J.N.F. project at Yodfat.

THIS WEEK'S BEST BOXES

N. LONDON: Mr. A. I. Lemer, 48 Norrice Lea, N.2, £12.0.0. Mr. G. Kaye, 5 Harford Walk, N.2, £5.17.0. Mrs. L. Cohen, c/o 17 Vivian Way, N.2, £5.9.0. Mr. S. Abel Harris, 59 Highpoint, N.6, £3.10.7. Mrs. Keen, 33 Osulton Way, Hampstead Garden Suburb, N.2, £3.3.6. Mrs. Shoot, 9 Brownlow Court, Lyttleton Road, N.2, £3.3.0. Mrs. Maimee Brickman and Family, 57 Brim Hill, N.2, £3.0.8. Mrs. Goldstein, 37 Beech Drive, N.2, £3.0.0. Mrs. Hertz, 98 Monarch Court, Lyttleton Road, N.2, £2.19.0. Mr. Jacob Weinograd, 663 Holloway Road, N.19, £2.5.6. Mr. S. H. Shmulevitch, 10 Brownlow Court, Lyttleton Road, N.2, £2.2.8. Mr. I. Gottlieb, 99 Brim Hill, N.2, £2.1.7. Mr. Berg, 235 Creighton Avenue, N.2, £2.0.7. Mrs. Frankel, 12 Greenhalgh Walk, N.2, £2.0.0. Dr. Liebster, 8 Vivian Way, N.2, £2.0.0. Mr. Hoffman, 17 Vivian Way, N.2, £2.0.0.

E. LONDON: Mr. D. Elkan, 791 Commercial Road, E.1, £4.0.0. Mrs. Schwartz, 281 Bancroft Road, E.1, £2.13.0. Mrs. Levy, 122 Burdett Road, E.3, £2.5.0. Mr. Green, 13 Burdett Road, E.3, £2.3.0. Mr. Weiner, 11 Wellington Road, E.10, £2.2.9.

N.W. LONDON: Mr. M. E. Becker, 74 Hodford Road, N.W.11, £2.18.0. Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Cohen, 43 The Vale, N.W.11, £2.15.4. Mr. A. Golden, 16 Dunstan Road, N.W.11, £2.2.0.

EDGWARE: Mr. H. Gold, 19 Hillcrest Avenue, E.2.0.0.

LEEDS (all at £2.12.0): Mr. J. Perry, 27 Moorland Drive, 17. Mr. M. B. Rogall, 171 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Mr. W. Raynor, 485 Street Lane, 17. Dr. L. Richmond, 368 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Dr. G. A. Rose, 6 Moor Allerton Gardens, 17. Mr. C. Sandberg, 1 Roxholme Grove, 7. Dr. H. Sharp, 210 Street Lane, 8. Mr. N. Silverman, 570 Harrogate Road, 17. Mr. M. Silberg, 4 Chelwood Drive, 8. Mr. E. Stowe, 5 Moor Allerton Gardens, 17. Mr. A. Schneider, 7 Westcombe Avenue, 8. Mr. L. Stross, 276 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Mr. D. Taylor, 34 Grant Place, 7. Councillor H. Waterman, 5 Primley Park View, 17. Dr. L. Walsh, 2 The Drive, Crossgates, 7. Mr. J. Winter, 26 Hamilton Avenue, 7. Mr. L. C. Wolfe, 37 Broomhill Drive, 17. Mr. B. Zimmerman, 6 Belvedere Grove, 17.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Gittleman, 38 Pasture Road, 8, £2.10.0. Mr. J. Bernstein, 5 High Moor Avenue, 17, £2.2.0. Mr. A. Goldstein, 115 Chapeltown Road, 7, £2.2.0. Mr. M. Lyons, 22 Moortland Drive, 17, £2.2.0. Mr. B. Wurzel, 5 Belvedere Avenue, 17, £2.0.0.

HULL: Mr. H. Marcus, 303 Beverley Road, Anlaby, £2.12.0.

STAINES: Rev. L. Rosenberg, 30 St. Pauls Road, £2.2.0.

SOUTHAMPTON: Mr. Philip Loftus, 60 Oxford Street, £5.8.3. Mrs. G. Morris, 12 Stoneham Lane, £3.13.0.

MERTHYR TYDFIL: Sally Fine, Luctonia, The Walk, £3.10.0. Mr. Ken Carter, 40 Darren View, £2.7.0. Mrs. Rosie Shipman, Tydfil House, £2.2.0. Mrs. Dora Pental, The Walk, £2.2.0. Morris Silvergleit, 4 Bowens Court, £2.2.0.

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